

From: Bryan Mih [mailto:bmih@hawaii.edu]
Sent: Sunday, June 23, 2013 10:51 PM
Subject: Support Bill 28, Smoke-Free Bus Stops on O`ahu!

As a pediatrician and medical director for the smoking cessation program at Kapiolani Medical Center for Women & Children, I strongly urge you to pass Bill 28, which bans smoking ban at our bus stops.

The dangers of smoking and secondhand smoke are well-known. The U.S. Surgeon General, in 2010, notes that any level of exposure to secondhand smoke is dangerous and can be harmful. Bus stops often attract large numbers of people, and commuters have limited opportunities to avoid secondhand smoke in these areas. Families, children, youth, elderly people, and people with disabilities use TheBus for their regular transportation , putting them at risk of exposure to secondhand smoke. Prohibiting smoking at bus stops or public transit waiting areas is a growing trend. 277 municipalities in 33 states have these policies, and we would like to see the City & County of Honolulu added to the list.

I have many patients and their families who use public transportation such as the bus. Many of my patients have respiratory problems, including asthma or chronic lung disease, which can be exacerbated by secondhand smoke. Extending the smoking ban to include bus stops would be a beneficial step for all.

Thank you very much for your time and support.

Sincerely,
Bryan Mih, MD MPH FAAP
Pediatrician

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